

Colonel Andrew Lewis expressed his surprise at this way of living apart from each other, when so distant from the habitation of other human beings. Sewell told him they differed in sentiments, and since they separated there was more tranquility, or a better understanding, for now they were on speaking terms, and upon each morning "it was good morning, Mr. Sewell," and "good morning Mr. Marlin". There has been a tradition that these two men quarrelled over their Religion one being a Protestant and the other a Catholic, then again, it has been written that they differed over the form of baptism, and that "immersion was the theme of their contention.

It should be understood that these two men ^{were not} at dagger points with each other, while they lived near together on the banks of Marlines Run, they were in speaking distance.

The late William T. Price in his historical notes writes that he saw the old sycamore tree, and was inside of it many times. (from Prices Notes as follows) "The lower part of the tree bore the striking resemblance to a leaning Indian tepee. The cavity could shelter five or six persons, and the writer has been often in it for shade or for shelter from rain or heat. At the top of the cone, some eight or ten feet from the ground, the tree was not more than twenty inches in diameter, and in that height it was chopped off about the year 1839, to avoid shading the crops. Thus the stump was left for shade or shelter, until it disappeared during the war, being probably used for a camp fire. This new arrangement did not last long, and Sewell in search of less molestation about his religion, with drew about eight miles to a cave at the head of Sewells Run near Marvin (now known as Stephen hole Run, See Stephen Hole Run) Then he went forty miles farther on to Sewell Creek, west Greenbrier, and was slain by Indians. (Andrew Price, Historian writes that Stephen Sewell died on the 11th day of September 1756, on Jacksons River, near fort Dinwiddie.) *in Bath County*

It is moreover interesting in this connection to recall the fact that on the banks of Marlins Run, is the burial place of a little child that was dashed to death by an Indian warrior in 1756. when overtaken by a party of Bath or Rockbridge men and the Melitia of Augusta County; seeking to rescue a Mrs, Mays, her son Joseph, an unmarried woman, a Mr, McClenachan, and some othe captives. This burial place is ~~a few yards~~ Rods diagonally from the east angle of Uriah Birds barn on the margin of the Marlins Run.

The infant corps was buried at the foot of the tree where it had been found a few minutes after its ^edeath. The burial took place just a few hours later, before the pursurers set out on their return. The grave was dug with hunting knives, hatchets, and naked fingers. The little body was laid in the grave very tenderly, and the grave partly filled with earth. The covering of the grave was completed with rather heavy stones, to prevent foxes or other animals from getting at the ^eremains.

Thus died and was buried the first white child known to history west of the Allegheny Mountains, on the banks of Marlin,s Run in the Town of Marlinton. As long as Marlin,s Run continues to flow it will perpetuate the name of Jacob Marlin.

The first survey that was made in what is now Pocahontas County was made ~~1750~~ by Colonel Andrew Lewis in 1750 on the Greenberier, Knapps Creek, and Marlins Run. When he found Stephen Sewell, and Jacob Marlin so situate on Marlins Run which embraces the Town of Marlinton, the County Seat of Pocahontas County..

NATURAL SETTING Pocahontas County.

Chapter Three.

Part (1) Sec D)

Roscoe W. Brown,
Roscoe W. Brown.

May 31st 1941.

PRICE RUN:- Price Run has its source in a large Limestone Spring emanating from the east side of Stony Creek Mountain and West of Jericho Flats and Marlinton. No figures are available as to the volume of this spring but as pointed out by Dr. James Price of Marlinton it would be sufficient to form a beautiful artificial lake if piped to a natural depression on Jericho flat. This Run has a meandering length of 1.1 miles with a total fall of 285 feet or at the rate of 259 feet per mile. It has a surface drainage area of 1.01 Square miles.

It enters Greenbrier River on the west side of Marlinton. It was so named from the Price family whose home is on the branch also the original Andrew Lewis survey of ⁴⁸⁰400 Acres made in 1750, acquired by Jacob Warwick and settled by his daughter Nancy and her husband Major William T. Poage about 1790. The survey of ⁴⁵⁰~~640~~ acres embraces the whole site of the present County seat Marlinton, William Thomas Price, author of Prices Historical Sketches of Pocahontas County, was born here July 19th 1830 and died at the place where he was born, January 15th 1925 aged ninety years.

Near the Price Run was the home of the late Andrew G. Price, the President of the West Virginia Historical Society, and was locally known as the "Sage of Pocahontas County;" Born Jan 28th 1871, Died Mar 26th 1930.

On the banks of the Price Run was the home of Anna L. Price the great religious Poetess, who died January 19th 1924. past 87 years of age.

STONY CREEK:- Stony Creek empties into the Greenbrier River 1.1 miles north of the River Bridge at Marlinton . It has its source 0.8 mile due west of Woodriw and is joined by several tributaries of less importance in Sharps Run, Pigeon Run, Dry Run Creek, Indian Draft, and other small unnamed , a large part of the water coming from several large limestone springs (Mc Laughlin) along Dry Creek east of Onoto. Stony Creek has a total length of 6.6 miles with a fall of 1300 feet or at a rate of 196.9 feet per mile. With its tributaries it has a drainage area of 22.33 ~~feet~~ square miles. A part of the water of Stony ~~of~~ Creek is used to propel a turbine for the Geiger Mill.

It was so name at a very early date by the pioneer settlers because of the Creek being so terribly Rocky and was there by called Stony Creek some of the historical incidents are recorded with its branch Indian Draft..

HALF WAY RUN ; - HALF Way Run is a small stream of minor importance heading in near the top of Marlins Mountain and flowing practically a traight gorge northwest to the Greenbrier River at Knapp. It has a total length of 2.2 miles with a drainage area of 1.35 square miles . It was so named because it was half way between two particular points, on the Greenbrier River .

BRUSH LICK RUN:- Brush Lick Run heads 0.08 mile south east of Warwick . It is joined by Sideling Run, a stream of greater length , 0.6 mile east of August where the parent stream empties into Greenbrier River . It has a drainage area of 4.73 square miles . The Brush Lick Run was so named from a Deer Lick that was designated as the Brush Lick which was upon the Run.

LEWIS LICK RUN :- The Lewis Lick Run has its source in three forks high up on the south side of the Gay Knob and flows south for a distance of 4.6 miles where it joins the Greenbrier River at August. It has a total fall of 1105 feet of at the rate of 240.2 feet per mile and a drainage basin of 3.63 square miles. This Branch was so named from the pioneer Lewis, s that first settled in Pocahontas County .

THORNY CREEK;- Thorny Creek, with many small tributaries, heads high up on the southern end of Michael Mountain. It is joined from the West by Little Thorny Creek, and flows south west to a point 0.08 mile south-west of Dilleys Mill where it flows west for a distance of $1\frac{1}{4}$ miles, cutting a deep gorge between Thorny Creek and Marlins Mountains, thence in a well entrenched meander in a South-west direction to the Greenbrier River one-half north-east of August. Thorny Creek has a total length of 9.6 miles with a drainage basin area of 19.34 square miles. It has a total fall of 1250 feet with a rate of fall of 130.2 feet per mile. The Little Thorny Creek has a total length of 3.4 miles with a rate of fall per mile of 94.1 feet per mile, and has a drainage area basin of 2.72 square miles. Thorny Creek has the honor of having the the first largest survey made in what is now Pocahontas County, (was then under the regiee Bath County) which was made for Thomas Wilson in the year of 1795 and embraced 44,000 acres of land and included practically all the waters of Thorny Creek The Senica State Forest is situated on the Thorny Creek and The Thorny Creek - Mountain, and contains 11000 acres and is within the bounds of the Thomas Wilson Survey. The Little Thorny Creek has the first small artificial Lake in the County this lake is reached by a good roadway from the site of the old Senica C.C.C. Camp, by crossing a spur of the Thorny Creek Mountain, this Lake contains about 7 acres and about 15 feet deep, This ^{lake is} equipped with cabins rest rooms and rowe boats, and during the summer season is visited by many tourists. Hundreds of Deer are in the region of the Thorny Creek and The State Game Reserve

The first settlers on the Thorny Creek found the bottoms to be covered with the white Thorn Trees and thereby named it "Thorny Creek"

Dilleys Flour Mill is situated on the Thorny Creek. (Now out of Use)

KNAPPS CREEK:- KNAPPS Creek is the Greenbrier Rivers largest and most important tributary in Pocahontas County. It has its source high up in the Allegheny Mountain near the State line , and near the top of the Allegheny Mountain five miles east of the Village of Frost. It flows in a south west direction across the Upper Devonian (Geologically Speaking) sandstones and shales to the Village Of Frost , where it is forced to swing to the south because of the Browns Mountain and the Michael uplift . From this point it follows the less resistant Middle Devonian shales, and passes through some of the best farm land to be found in Pocahontas County , to where it is joined by Laurel-Creek and its tributaries from an oposite direction near Minnehaha Springs, and from there it swings north-west to cut a deep gorge through these ranges to join the Greenbrier River at Marlinton . It has a total length of 26.8 miles as it meanders in its natural course , It has an air-line distance of 17.76 miles, and has a total fall of 1560 feet , and a rate of fall per mile of 58.2 feet; It has a drainage area of 109.96 square miles.

The Knapps Creek Valley is one of the most beautiful valleys to be found in the State of West Virginia. The average width of the bottom land of the Knapps Creek Valley is approximately three-fourth mile wide and is a farming section from its source high up in the Allegheny Mountain , to its conjunction with the Greenbrier River at Marlinton. Nearly all the bottom land is cleared and is in a state of cultivation from Marlinton to its source , farms and homes are located in all the branches that find their way to the Knapps Creek-Valley; The soil of the Valley is very productive especially along in the bottoms and here the soil has been carried in, and by the intermixture the fields produce abundantly nearly all the crops that is common to Pocahontas County . The soil is suitable for the timber growth of the famous white pine trees , which has been produced abundantly all over the Knapps Creek and its tributaries. The Knapps Valley was heavily timbered when the early settlers made their debut in the valley and began to clear the land and establish their homes , which appears to be about the year of 1760 .

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About 1770 Moses Moore the progenitor of the largest relation ship of the Moore name in Pocahontas County, came to the Knapps Creek Valley, known at that time as Ewing's Creek, and is so named in many of the old landpapers in giving the local description of the land grants; This first settler on what is now called Knapps Creek was James Ewing, he must have made settlement on the Knapps Creek about the year of 1760; Traces of the original cabin remained for years in the meadow near the old orchard contiguous to Washington Moore's present residence. The tract of land purchased from James Ewing for the consideration of two steel traps and two pounds of English Sterling, extended from from the land formerly owned by Andrew Harold to Dennis Devers gate by the road side below the Francis Dever homestead.

Besides other improvement Moses Moore, built a Mill on Mill Run, near Grady Moores home, and was the first old time water mill erected on the waters of Knapps Creek, (Michael Daugherty built a mill farther down Knapps-Creek about the same time.)

The first pioneer settlers of the Knapps Creek Valley as they appear in the records of Augusta and Bath Counties, are as follows James Ewing, Moses Moore, Timothy Mc Carty, Michael Daugherty, Michael Clark, John Sharp, John Bradshaw, Peter lightner, Joseph Carey, Abraham Devise, James Dunlop, Samuel Machum, Patrick Magrath, John McCollum, George Poage, William Rhea, Andrew Reid, ~~Stewart/Archibald~~, ~~Townsend~~ Archibald Stewart, Ezekiel Townsend, and others. The early development of Pocahontas County was made while under first Augusta County, during the Revolutionary War, and then after the formation of Bath from Augusta in the year of 1791, and thereafter till 1821 when the formation of Pocahontas County took place. When the Greenbrier Valley and the Knapps Creek Valley, and Pocahontas County in general, became a place of interest to the people of Bath County, their only route to the Little Levels, to Dumore, Greenbank, and the upper Greenbrier, then often refered to as the Upper Tract, was across the Allegheny Mountain, to the Knapps Creek Valley which was referd to as the "North-West Passage"

NATURAL SEILING

which was applied to the Knapps Creek gorge between Minnehaha Springs and the town of Huntersville, one of the many Indian trails that crossed the Allegheny Mountains from the Jackson River Valley crossed at Rimal, out by Minnehaha Springs, and down the Knapps Creek, passing under the Anticline, on the south side of the Creek and by the town of Huntersville, crossed Marlins Run at Marlins Bottom (now Marlinton) crossed the Greenbrier River near the Tannery, and on by the Indian Draft. In ~~1755~~ 1756 The Indians raided the Mays home in Bath County, a few miles from Bath Alum. Joseph Mays aged 13 years, his mother, an unknown white girl, and a Mrs Sloan, and her ~~infant~~ Infante were taken prisoners. and according to Historian Andrew Price during that raid they killed twelve persons wounded two, and carried off thirty-five persons as prisoners; on the second days march they crossed the Jackson River near Warwinton, Back Creek Mountain, and camped near the mouth of Little back Creek, now Mountain Grove. The third day they crossed the Allegheny Mountain came down on the Knapps Creek-Valley marched down Knapps Creek to a point about half-way between Marlinton, and Huntersville, and there went into camp for the night; This camping site of the Indians, and their captives is supposed to be some where on the lower end of the lands formerly owned by the Late J.H. Bussard; The fourth morning the Indians were on the march bright and early, but they were closely pursued by the Militia of Augusta County, and a running fight occurred down near the mouth of Knapps Creek and Marlins Run, now at Marlinton, The Indians were closely pressed, were pursued some distance up Stony Creek and the Indian Draft but could not be overtaken, It was in this raid that ^{the} child was killed at Marlins Run by the Indians and buried the same day.

It appears that all the Indian raids that occurred on the upper Jackson River and vicinity, in former Bath County and Augusta County, the trail passed over the lower Knapps Creek Valley, crossed the Greenbrier River near the site of the Tannery at Marlinton and out by the way of Stony Creek and the Indian Draft

to be continued.

NATURAL SETTING

The Charleston Gazette, Tu

Fish of Watoga Lake Swim to Greenbrier

State Parks Supervisor Plans to Rebuild Collapsed Dam

An earthen dam, at Watoga state park, which collapsed and drained a six-acre lake will be rebuilt, the conservation department said yesterday.

About 15,000 cubic yards of earth were washed out and most of the fish in the lake were carried into the Greenbrier river. Linn Wilson, parks supervisor, said there was no other damage to state property. Watoga park is in Pocahontas county near Marlinton.

On last Friday night WCKY, a popular radio station, of Cincinnati, gave a fifteen minute broadcast, devoted to Pocahontas County, sponsored by the Pocahontas Times. Here is the script submitted and mostly used.

I am appreciative of the opportunity to put West Virginia in general in its right light before the world by presenting in particular my own delectable part, Pocahontas County in the Greenbrier Valley. You know, West Virginia has suffered not a little through adverse advertising. Why our mountain people—gentle and forbearing as the sheep upon our thousands of hills—are pictured as fretful, feverish and quick on the trigger. The fact is that no where in all the world is higher regard placed upon the sanctity of human life than among us. Naturally, human nature and original sin being what they are, it occasionally happens there arises in our midst an anti-social, demon possessed individual who needs killing. Of a truth the highland man is not one to stand aside from the performance of a duty, even though it be personally distasteful.

Speaking of our mountain people, it has been said that what the lowlander considers shrewd business practice, is put down as plain rascality by us highlanders.

Some of you may have heard this old toast to West Virginia—"With the gas to light the world; with coal to heat the world; with oil to grease the world; with timber to put a high board fence around the world; and with brains to run the world." That old boy took in a bit of territory, about all there is, I will admit, but then a highlander usually feels expansive when he gets among the lowlanders.

Still speaking of our people, it has been said that they are like wild hogs in that they will eat each other, but let an outside force attack, the first squeal will bring the herd packing to his help.

Our County of Pocahontas—"lying on the bosom of the Alleghanias like a jewel in the hands of a queen" is known to fame as one of the shires of the Greenbrier Valley. However, the Greenbrier is merely one of the eight sister rivers having their head springs in this mountain domain of a thousand square miles—the Greenbrier, Stavers Cheat, Tygart, Elk, Gauley, Cherry, Williams and Cranberry. Then the head streams of the Potomac begin where Pocahontas leaves off at the north and the drainage to the noble James is from the long eastern boundary. Here is the high country of eastern America, and it is our proud boast Pocahontas receives drainage from no man's land; our water comes straight down clean from the clouds of heaven.

By the terms of the treaty of Albany, in 1722, between Great Britain and the Six Nations, the lands on the Western Waters, that is the Mississippi Drainage, were retained by the Indians as their own. Indians venturing east of the Alleghanias would forfeit all their rights, to be sold as slaves in the West Indies. The white man who ventured on to the Western waters could be killed with impunity by the Indian owners. Beginning two hundred years back, the white people did come and they stayed, though outlawed by King and Council, Colonial Governor and General Assembly, and so actively opposed by the original inhabitants, the region has the bloodiest Indian history of any portion of America. There is a valley saying about the farms, "that they were taken from the forest with an axe and held against all comers with a rifle." Land titles could not be perfected until the formation of the Commonwealth of Virginia in 1776, and to this day the best land title in West Virginia is ten years uninterrupted possession. The late Colonel Theodore Roosevelt wrote interestingly and comprehendingly of the Western Waters Movement in his Winning of the West books.

The Warrior's Road—the war path of J. Fenimore Cooper's, Leather Stocking Tales, from Seneca Lake, New York, to the Red Hills of North Georgia—traverses the Greenbrier Valley from end to end. U. S. Route 219 is called the Seneca Trail. The town of Marlinton, county seat of the County of Pocahontas, is the first English speaking settlement in the Mississippi Valley. General Andrew Lewis in 1751, when he came to make the first land survey on the Western waters, found Jacob Marlin and Stephen Sewell here. One of the calls of his survey is a line passing over the Ewing house. The stump of the first corner tree on all the Great Mississippi Valley is still preserved.

The then Colonel was surveying out grants totalling one hundred thousand acres for the Greenbrier Land Company. This Company had fooled the King and his Council into believing the waters of the Greenbrier drained toward the Atlantic instead of the Gulf of Mexico. Maybe you think the Indians through the Long House at Albany did not get busy to have the Charter of the Greenbrier Company annulled in a few years.

Inasmuch as more than two-thirds of the area of Pocahontas County is now held in public ownership in the Monongahela National Forest, I feel no hesitancy in making report to the general public on their communal holdings in these parts. The matter of public hunting ground and free fishing waters has come to the front in the past few years with disconcerting suddenness. This popular side line of the all important and too long

neglected necessity of saving trees and water and soil sure put the push behind the great Conservation movement as we now know and glory in. The right to hunt is an American tradition ranking with freedom of speech and assembly, the right to bear arms and the right of petition. Unrestrained exercise of this tradi-

tional right to hunt the public owned game killed the goose which laid the golden egg so that two generations of Americans have had poor hunting. In your Monongahela National Forest the game is coming back apace, but do not get the idea it is an easy, lazy man's task to hunt the wild deer of our endless mountains, though he make his bed within a mile of our Court House.

Speaking about Conservation of our natural resources of timber, soil and water, I heard over the air a scientific gentleman down Washington way, remark in effect the central Government, for the good of all the people had the right to say to the man of West Virginia how he should till or refrain from tilling his hillside acres. The sentiment did not go down at all with me. I was reared in the good old free school which taught a man held dominion over his own land, to bid a King to stay off if he so desire, and that he owned down to where he would meet Chinamen coming this way, and from here to the moon. Would I stand for any bureaucrat to tell me how I should manage old Jerico farm, from whose sacred soil men had gone at call of country to Indian, Revolutionary and Confederate wars? Sober second thought brought me to see clearly I had no right to so till my hillside acres as to impoverish a soil upon which I hold merely a life tenure at best; to put in condition where a dashing rain would mud up the waters of Price Run, and thicken the drinking water of those who depend upon the rivers for this necessity of life; to add to the distress in times of drouth and flood of our neighbors in the Ohio and Mississippi Valleys.

Having an elevation above sea level ranging from two thousand to forty-eight hundred feet, Pocahontas County has an ideal summer climate. The tree growth of the higher elevations is what the foresters call the Northern hardwood mixture, such as hard maple, ash, cherry, beech and birch, with the black spruce on the higher mountains. On the lower grounds are the oaks and pines. As for the rest of the botany, it is most interesting for here we have an overlapping of the Carolinian, Virginian and Canadian species of plants. Those words bring up a sour recollection. A stranger came into the office for to modestly inquire of the flora and fauna of this region. I started off on a high and airy flight about Carolinian meaning southern, Virginian

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meaning middle and Canadian meaning northern when applied to plants and animals. I was thoroughly enjoying the clear sailing until the gentleman began to interpose some remarks of his own. Man, I said, what do you know about botany anyhow? Only so much, he replied, as to enable me to hold position with the Biological Survey the past thirty five years as a botanist. When he told me his name I recalled it as an outstanding one in the world of Science. With the little breath remaining in my deflated bladder, I told him about taking advantage of ignorant innocence. He said I had laid myself vulnerable, and I acknowledged the corn.

Anyway, the Greenbrier Valley is the botanist's happy hunting ground, and the same may be said for the Geologist. The rock here is sedimentary and the folded mountains expose the foundations for miles, up and down. A Geologist from the low lands once told me the great weekend out door sport for a party of Scientists was to go into the fields in search of fossils. A score would go into a huddle over a stone to see whether the marks were fossils, glacial scars or merely harrow scratches. Here he saw steam shovels at work dumping wonderful fossil remains over the bank by the cubic yard day after day. Another of our local sayings is that you cannot raise good people on poor ground. Ours is natural blue grass soil; our mountains grass to the top; it is an ideal land for cattle and sheep, as well as for people. As for sheep, the pesky varments put a crimp in this industry when the Conservation Commission put the black bear on the song bird list. As for the cattle, it has been said the god of the Greenbrier is a red steer calf on the butt of a hay stack, and that our women still talk horse.

As for our people I readily admit that the best people to be found anywhere live in the Greenbrier Valley, and the farther upstream the better they get. A proper sense of modesty restrains me from explaining how close to the head springs is my own ancestral home.

The meaning of rigmarole is that, imbued with proper missionary spirit we are willing to share the blessings of a good country, a good climate and a sturdy people. Anyway, whether you can see your way clear to cast your lot in with us in these delectable endless mountains and be content to watch the world go by, why pay a visit to the vacation land of the Greenbrier Valley, to see the County of Pocahontas. More than two thirds

of it is owned by all the people of these United States. What we have no stand all our lives, you ought to be able to put up with and enjoy for a day or two.

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